

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for the electrical initiation of at least one pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~, characterized in that it comprises a support element ~~(9, 9')~~ having at least one electrically conductive portion connected to a first terminal of a central control unit ~~(8, 8')~~, a second terminal of said central control unit ~~(8, 8')~~ being intended to be electrically connected to an electrically conductive support, the microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ being located at a sufficient distance from said conductive support to be able to be ignited by localized heating of the support, this heating being carried out via the conductive portion placed in contact with the conductive support, just beneath the pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~.
2. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ is deposited on the conductive support.
3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ is separated from the support by at least one thermally conductive layer.
4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the conductive portion is produced at least at the top of a finger ~~(6, 6a, ..., 6h and 6', 6'a, ..., 6'i)~~, said finger ~~(6, 6a, ..., 6h and 6', 6'a, ..., 6'i)~~ being positioned so as to bear via its top against the conductive support.

5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger ~~(6, 6a, ..., 6h)~~ is mounted on a spring ~~(7, 7a, ..., 7h)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger ~~(6, 6a, ..., 6h)~~ is an electrode made of carbon or made of titanium.

7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger ~~(6', 6'a, ..., 6'h)~~ consists of a boss made of flexible material formed on the support element ~~(9')~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the support element ~~(9')~~ consists of a thermoformed sheet of flexible material in which said boss ~~(6', 6'a, ..., 6'i)~~ is formed, the boss forming a finger intended to bear via its top against the conductive support.

9. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that, when the support element ~~(9, 9')~~ comprises a plurality of fingers ~~(6a, ..., 6h, 6', 6'a, ..., 6'i)~~, the electrically conductive portions are connected in parallel to the first terminal of the central control unit ~~(8')~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that, when the support element ~~(9)~~ comprises a plurality of fingers ~~(6a, ..., 6h)~~, the position of the fingers ~~(6a, ..., 6h)~~ can be adjusted.

11. (Currently Amended) A microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ comprising an actuating element that can be actuated by the gases emanating from the combustion of at least one pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~, characterized in that said microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ is located at a sufficient distance from a conductive layer ~~(11)~~ to be able to be ignited by localized heating using an initiation device in accordance with that of claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 10~~, in which an electrically conductive portion is placed on said pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ in contact with the conductive layer ~~(11)~~, just beneath said pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ is deposited on a face ~~(110)~~ of the conductive layer and in that the conductive portion is in contact with the face ~~(111)~~ of the conductive layer ~~(11)~~ on the opposite side to that on which the pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3, 3a, ..., 3h)~~ is deposited.

13. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the conductive layer ~~(11)~~ consists of a metal film.

14. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that the film is made of aluminum.

15. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the aluminum film has a thickness of between 20 and 150 μm .

16. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the aluminum film has a thickness of 70 μm .

17. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that it is produced by assembling superposed layers ~~(10, 11, 12)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The microactuator ~~(1, 1a, ..., 1h)~~ as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that it includes a cavity ~~(2a, ..., 2h)~~ formed by the multilayer assembly, in which cavity at least one pyrotechnic microcharge ~~(3a, ..., 3h)~~ is placed, said cavity ~~(2a, ..., 2h)~~ being closed by a layer ~~(12)~~ constituting a deformable membrane.

19. (Currently Amended) A microsystem ~~(1')~~, characterized in that it comprises a support for a plurality of adjacent microactuators ~~(1a, ..., 1h)~~ in accordance with that of claim 11, the pyrotechnic microcharges ~~(3a, ..., 3h)~~ of the microactuators ~~(1a, ..., 1h)~~ being located at a sufficient distance from the conductive layer ~~(11)~~ to be able to be ignited, each independently, by heating using the initiation device whose support element ~~(9, 9')~~ is fitted onto the support for the microactuators ~~(1a, ..., 1h)~~, said initiation device comprising a plurality of conductive portions connected in parallel to the first terminal of the central control unit ~~(8')~~, a conductive portion being placed on each of the pyrotechnic microcharges ~~(3a, ..., 3h)~~, in contact with the conductive layer ~~(11)~~, just beneath each of the pyrotechnic microcharges ~~(3a, ..., 3h)~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The microsystem ~~(1')~~ as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the microactuators ~~(1a, ..., 1h)~~ are all formed from an assembly of the same layers ~~(10, 11, 12)~~.